



**DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION  
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**Date:** May 31, 2018

Attachment 1

**To:** Ronny J. Coleman, Chairman  
Statewide Training and Education Advisory Committee  
c/o State Fire Training

**From:** Caryn Petty, Deputy State Fire Marshal

**Subject/Agenda Action Item:** Cosumnes Fire Department Initial Accredited Local Academy (ALA) Accreditation

**Recommended Actions:** Recommend that Cosumnes Fire Department become an Accredited Local Academy (ALA) in the State Fire Training (SFT) system for the initial accreditation period of three years.

**Background Information:**

An accreditation site visit was conducted on May 8, 2018, at the Cosumnes Fire Department Training Tower located at 10573 E. Stockton Boulevard in Elk Grove, California. The accreditation site evaluation team included Supervising Deputy State Fire Marshal Chris Fowler, State Fire Training; Deputy State Fire Marshal Caryn Petty, State Fire Training; Chief John Walsh, Alameda County Fire Department, STEAC Representative; and Fire Academy Professor German Sierra, Los Medanos College. Introductions were facilitated by Battalion Chief of Training/Special Operations Kris Hubbard, Cosumnes Fire Department, that included Deputy Chief of Operations Troy Bair, Training Captain Richard Haas, Jr., and Academy staff. A review of the provided Self-Assessment Report was conducted by the Site Visit Accreditation team followed by a tour of all classrooms and training facilities with opportunity to review training course records and equipment compliment.

The Cosumnes Community Services District Fire Department dates back to 1893 when the Elk Grove Fire Department began with a volunteer brigade that later formed the Galt Fire Protection District in 1921. Since that time, the two departments have combined producing the Cosumnes Fire Department which now serves the growing and dynamic area of southern Sacramento County covering more than 157 square miles and a population of more than 193,000 residents. The 175 Department personnel are devoted to fire, emergency medical, wildland, and swiftwater and confined space rescue operations with a thriving Training Division concentrated on maintaining innovative and relevant training delivery programs at all levels of fire service education.

**Analysis/Summary of Issue:**

A tour of the training facilities indicated sufficient classroom space with a fully functioning training tower complete with all necessary props, tools, equipment, and vehicles to accommodate a fire academy training program.

Cosumnes Fire Department has transitioned to the 2013 Fire Fighter I curriculum and is positioning itself to participate in certification exam testing. This facility has the space and props to enable certification exam testing. Several Registered Instructors within the Department participate in the Academy delivery and Cosumnes Fire Department plans to begin hosting additional State Fire Training courses at their facility and in conjunction with cooperating agencies.

The Team traveled to the Cosumnes Fire Department training facility and toured the grounds, confirming all props and equipment. Student records and training archives remain secured at the facility in accordance with State Fire Training requirements. The training facility presents a state-of-the-art academy classroom equipped with progressive audio/visual equipment and personal electronic learning aids. The best practices observed by the site evaluation team included a dedication to empowering students and candidates in their pursuit of a career within the fire service through various community outreach programs. Among them, the Cosumnes River College Co-Op Work Experience Education Program has had great success as more than fifty former Program interns are now employed by the Department.

The Cosumnes Fire Department has demonstrated a strong devotion to training that is indicative of a progressive organization. The site team is unanimous in the recommendation of Cosumnes Fire Department being accredited as an ALA in the SFT system.